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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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X	U	The Random House College Dictionary, Revised Edition, p. 375 (1982)
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The  
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**REVISED EDITION**

Based on **The  
Random House  
Dictionary of the  
English Language**

**THE UNABRIDGED EDITION**  
**JESS STEIN • EDITOR IN CHIEF**

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## A DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1

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### REVISED EDITION

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## diphtheroid

**Halicarnas/sus**, died 77 B.C., Greek storian in Rome. **n.** *Class. Myth.* the god of drama; Bacchus. Also, *Di/o-ny/sos*, **equation** (di/fan/tin, -ten, -fan/ten, quation involving more than one variable, the variables are integers and for tions are sought. [named after *Diophantus*, Greek mathematician; see -IN-<sup>1</sup>]. **n.** *Mineral.* common variety + Gk *ops*(is) appearance + -DE] **tās**, n. a mineral, hydrous copper O. [*F* = *di-* *bi-* + *Gk optiast* view] **Optics.** a unit of measure of the lens. **Abbr.** D. Also, esp. *Brit.* *di-opt.* [*Gk*: instrument for measuring height + *op-* (for *opsethai* to see) + *-tra*] **op/tom/tar**, n. an instrument for the eye. [di-<sup>3</sup> + *opt*(ic) + -o- + -ik], **adj.** 1. *Optics.* pertaining to di- or refracted light. Also, *di-opt/tri-* - *o-* **tri-cally**, *adv.* **n.** (construed as sing.) the branch dealing with the formation of images [RIC, -ics] **n/o-,-ra/mo**, n. 1. a scene reproduced by placing objects, figures, etc., in front of the eye. 2. a spectacular picture, partly built through the eye. [*F* = *ma* view (*hor/du*) (to) see, look + *a-* n. a suffix]. **di/o-ram/ic**, *adj.* **n.** granular igneous rock consisting of feldspar and hornblende. [*F. tāj*, *Yor/ti*], **n.** *Class. Myth.* Castor and **en/in**, *di/o/za/nin*, **n.** *Biochem.* a used in the synthesis of steroid **esterone**. [*NL* *Dioscorea* name **Diocoride** 1st-century A.D. Greek **-sid**], **n.** *Chem.* an oxide containing each of which is bonded directly to element, as nitrogen dioxide,  $\text{NO}_2$ . **Chem.** a highly toxic chlorinated trichlorodibenz-p-dioxin, formed by impurity or byproduct in herbicide industrial processes; believed to be [Archaic] **dip**; **dip-ping**, *n.* —*v.t.* 1. to moisten it, dye it, or cause it to take 2. to raise or take up by balling, to lower and raise; *to dip a flag* in (cattle, sheep, hogs, etc.) in a solution, or the like. 3. to make (a plunging a wick into melted wax, etc.). 7. to put the hand, a dipper, a container, esp. in order to remove the jar for an olive. 8. to sink pped below the horizon. 9. to incline to decrease slightly or temporarily: *dip on Fridays*. 11. to engage into astronomy. 12. to read here 13. the act of dipping or plunging 14. that which is taken up by dipped. 16. a liquid or soft substance with potato chips, crackers, and hors d'oeuvre, esp. with cocktails. 17. a sinking down. 19. a moderate dip in stock-market prices. 20. a 22. a hollow or depression in the 24. *Geol. Mining.* the downward turn with reference to a horizontal mount by which the horizon lies. 26. Also called **magnetic dip**, neede pivoted on a horizontal of the horizon. 27. a short, down-ane. 28. *Gymnastics.* an exercise a person bends his elbows until his bars, then elevates himself until **E dip(pen)**, *OE* *dyppan*; akin to **DEEP**]. **PLUNGE** refer literally to (or any liquid). To dip is to tickly or partially and lift out order to test the temperature. Im- ering into a liquid until covered or two only (as in certain forms in salt water). **PLUNGE** adds a 'it. 2. scoop, ladle, bain- iced, having two phases; two- zik). **n.** *Chem.* biphenyl.  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH}_2$ , used in the preparation of nitrocellulose propellants, and **n.** *Chem.* a toxic liquid, oison gas now used chiefly in **DESENE**]. **n.** *Pathol.* a febrile, the bacillus *Corynebacterium* by the formation of a false es, esp. the throat. [*NL* *diphthera* (skin, leather + 'the hit/ik, dip/-), *diph-the-* + *dip*], *adj.*

## diphthong

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**diph-thong** (di/fhōng, -thōng, dip/-), *n.* 1. *Phonet.* an unsegmentable, gliding speech sound varying continuously in phonetic quality but held to be a single sound or phoneme as the *oi*-sound of *toy* or *boil*. 2. (not in technical use) a. a digraph, as the *ee* of *meat*. b. a ligature, as *æ*. [*< LL diphthongus* < Gk *diphthongos*, lit., having two sounds (di- + *phōnōs* voice, sound)] —**diph-thong/ical** (di/fhōng/ik, -thōng/ik, -dip/-), *adj.*

**diph-thong/ise** (di/fhōng iz', -giz', -thōng, dip/-), *v.t.* —*ised*, *ing*. *Chiefly Brit.* *diphthongize*. —**diph-thong-i-sa/tion**, *n.*

**diph-thong/ize** (di/fhōng iz', -giz', -thōng, dip/-), *v.t.* —*ised*, *ing*. *Phone*. —*v.t.* 1. to change into or pronounce as a diphthong. —*v.i.* 2. to become a diphthong. —**diph-thong-i-za/tion**, *n.*

**diph-yo-dont** (di/fē ə dont'), *adj.* *Zool.* having two successive sets of teeth, as most mammals. [*< Gk diphys(es) double, twofold (di- + phys growth, nature < phēin to produce, grow) + -odont*]

**dipl.** 1. *diplomat*. 2. *diplomatic*.

**dip-lex** (di/plēks), *adj.* pertaining to or noting a telegraphic or telephonic system permitting the sending or receiving of two signals or messages simultaneously. [di-<sup>1</sup> + -plex, modeled on *duplex*]

**diplo-**, a combining form meaning "double," "in pairs": *diplococcus*. [*< Gk, comb. form of *diplos* twofold*]

**diplo-bla-sis** (di/plēs/tik), *adj.* having two germ layers, the ectoderm and entoderm, as the embryos of sponges and coelenterates.

**diplo-co-cus** (di/plē kok/s), *n.*, pl. *-coec-i* (-kok/si). *Bacteriol.* any of several spherical bacteria occurring in pairs, as *Diplococcus pneumoniae*. [*< NL*]

**diplo-od/o-cus** (di/plōd/o kās), *n.*, pl. *-cus-es*. a huge, herbivorous dinosaur of the genus *Diplodocus*, from the upper Jurassic period of western North America, growing to a length of about 87 feet. [*< NL = diplo- DIPLO- + Gk dokēs beam, bar, shaft*]

**diplo-ē** (di/plō ē), *n.* *Anat.* the cancellate bony tissue between the hard inner and outer walls of the bones of the cranium. [*< Gk: a fold* < *diplos* DIPLO-] —**diplo-ic** (di/plō/ik), *adjective* (di/plō et/ik), *adj.*

**diploid** (diploid), *adj.* 1. double; twofold. 2. *Biol.* having two similar complements of chromosomes. —*n.* 3. *Biol.* an organism or cell having double the haploid number of chromosomes. 4. *Crystall.* a solid belonging to the isometric system and having 24 trapezoidal planes. —**dip-lo/i/dic**, *adj.*

**diplo-ma** (di/plō/mā), *n.*, pl. *-mas*, *-ma-ta* (-mā tā), *v.* —*maed*, *ma-ing*. —*n.* 1. a document given by an educational institution conferring a degree on a person or certifying his satisfactory completion of a course of study. 2. a document conferring some honor, privilege, or power. 3. a public or official document, esp. one of historical interest. —*v.t.* 4. to furnish with a diploma. [*< L* a letter folded double: *diplo*(os) DIPLO- + -ma n. suffix]

**diplo-ma-cy** (di/plō/mā sē), *n.* 1. the conduct by government officials of negotiations and other relations between nations. 2. the art or science of conducting such negotiations. 3. skill in managing negotiations, handling people, etc., so that there is little or no ill will; tact. [*< F diplomatic* (with *t* pronounced as *s*)]

**diplo-mat** (di/plō mat'), *n.* 1. a person employed by a national government to conduct official negotiations and maintain political, economic, and social relations with another country or countries. 2. a person who is tactful and skillful in managing a delicate situation, handling people, etc. [*< F diplomate*, back formation from *diplomatique* DIPLOMATIC]

**diplo-mate** (di/plō mat'), *n.* a person who has received a diploma, esp. a doctor, engineer, etc., who has been certified as a specialist by a board within his profession. [DIPLOM(A) + -ATE<sup>1</sup>]

**diplo-mat-ic** (di/plō mat/ik), *adj.* 1. of, pertaining to, or engaged in diplomacy; *diplomatic*; *diplomatic immunity*. 2. skilled in diplomacy; *tactful*. 3. of or pertaining to diplomacy; *a diplomatic edition of a text*. [*< F diplomatic* < NL *diplomaticus* = L *diplo-mat* (s. of *diplo-ma*) DIPLO- + -icus -ic], *adjective* —**diplo-mat-ic-ally**, *adv.*

**diplomatic corps**, the entire body of diplomats accredited to and resident at a capital or court.

**diplomatic immunity**, exemption from taxation, arrest, customs duties, etc., enjoyed by diplomatic officials and their dependents under international law.

**diplo-mat-ics** (di/plō mat/ik's), *n.* (construed as sing.) the science of deciphering old official documents and of determining their authenticity.

**diplo-matist** (di/plō/mā tist), *n.* *Chiefly Brit.* a diplomat [DIPLOMATIC + -IST]

**diplo-pia** (di/plō/pē a), *n.* *Ophthalm.* a pathological condition of vision in which a single object appears double (opposed to *haptia*). [*< NL* —**diplo-pi** (di/plō/pē), *adj.*

**diplo-pod** (di/plō/pōd), *adj.* 1. belonging or pertaining to the *Diplopoda*. —*n.* 2. any arthropod of the class *Diplopoda*, comprising the millipedes. [*< NL Diplopoda* (a. See DIPLO- POP)]

**diplo-sis** (di/plō/sis), *n.* *Biol.* the doubling of the chromosome number by the union of the haploid sets in the union of gametes. [*< Gk *diplos** a doubling = *diplo*(ōn) (to) double < *diplos* DIPLO- + -osis -osis]

**dip-no-an** (di/nō ēn), *adj.* 1. belonging or pertaining to the group *Dipnoi*, comprising the lungfishes. —*n.* 2. a dipnoan fish. [*< NL Dipnoi* (name of the class, n. use of pl. of *dipnoi* (adj.) < Gk *dipnoi* (os) double-breathing: di- + *no* + *psē* breathing, breath, air < *pneu* to breathe) + -AN]

**dip-o-dy** (di/pē dē), *n.*, pl. *-dies*. *Pros.* a group of two feet, esp. in accentual verse, in which one of the two accented syllables bears primary stress and the other bears secondary stress. [*< LL dipodia* < Gk: the quality of having two feet = *dipod* (s. of *dipous*) two-footed (see DI-<sup>1</sup>, -POD) + -ia -y] —**dip-o-dic** (di/pō dīk), *adj.*

**dipole** (di/pōl), *n.* 1. *Physics.* *Elect.* a pair of electric act, able, dāre, ärt; ebb, equal; if, ice, hot, over, order; oil, böök, ööze; out, up, örge; a = a as in alone; chief; sing; shoe, thin; that; zh as in measure; ö as in button (but<sup>2</sup>n). fire (fPr). See the full key inside the front cover.

## direct action

point charges or magnetic poles of equal magnitude and opposite signs, separated by an infinitesimal distance. 2. *Physical Chem.* a molecule in which the centroid of the positive charges is different from the centroid of the negative charges. 3. Also called *di/pole anten/na*. *Radio, Television.* an antenna of a transmitter or receiver consisting of two equal rods extending in opposite directions. [di-<sup>1</sup> + POLE<sup>1</sup> —*di/po/la*, *adj.*

**dip-per** (di/pēr), *n.* 1. a person or thing that dips. 2. a cuplike container with a long, straight handle, used for dipping liquids. 3. (cap.) *Astron.* a. Also called *Big Dipper*, the group of seven bright stars in *Ursa Major* resembling such a vessel in outline. b. Also called *Little Dipper*, a similar group in *Ursa Minor*. 4. any of various diving birds, esp. the water ouzels. [ME *dive* bird]

**dip-so-ma-ni-a** (di/pōs/mā nē ē), *n.* an irresistible, typically periodic, craving for intoxicating drink. [*< NL* *dips(a)* thirst + -o- -o- + *mania* MANIA]

**dip-so-ma-ni-a/c** (di/pōs/mā nē ē kāl), *n.* a person with an abnormal, irresistible, and insatiable craving for liquor. —**dip-so-ma-ni-a/cal** (di/pōs/mā nē ē kāl), *adj.* —*Syn.* See drunkard.

**dip** (dip), *v.* *Archaic.* pt. of *dip*.

**dip-ter-a** (di/ter/ə), *n.* *Archaic.* pt. of *dip*. the order comprising the dipterous insects. 2. (l.c.) pl. of *dipteron*. [*< NL* *diplo-* *ter* (di/ter/ə), neut. pl. of *diploptera* two-winged; see DIPTEROUS]

**dip-ter-an** (di/ter/ən), *adj.* 1. dipterous (def. 1). —*n.* 2. a dipterous insect.

**dip-ter-o-car-pa-ceous** (di/ter/ō kār/pā shās), *adj.* belonging to the *Dipterocarpaceae*, a family of trees, chiefly of tropical Asia. [*< NL* *Dipterocarpaceae* (*Dipterocarpus* (see DIPTERA, -o- -CARP) + -aceae ACEAE) + -ous]

**dip-ter-o-ton** (di/ter/ō tōn), *n.* *diptera* (tar/ə), a dipterous insect: a fly. [*< Gk, neut. pl. of *dipteros* folded together = di- + *ptēs** (fold) + *-a* neut. pl. ending]

**di-ter-ous** (di/ter/əs), *adj.* *Entomol.* belonging or pertaining to the order *Diptera*, comprising the houseflies, mosquitoes, gnats, etc., characterized typically by a single, anterior pair of membranous wings with the posterior pair reduced to small, knobbed structures. 2. *Bot.* having two winglike appendages, as seeds, stems, or the like. [*< NL* *dipterus* two-winged. See DIPTEROUS]

**dip-tych** (di/pik/tik), *n.* 1. a hinged two-leaved tablet used in ancient times for writing on with a stylus. 2. a pair of pictures or carvings on two panels, usually hinged together.

3. *ancient* writing tablet with two leaves < Gk, neut. pl. of *dipthychos* folded together = di- + *ptēs* (fold) + *-y* (a neut. pl. ending)

**di-rac** (di/rāk'), *n.* Paul Adrien Maurice (3/drā ēn), born 1902, English physicist; Nobel prize 1933.

**di-rāe** (di/rē), *n.* pl. *Rom. Myth.* Furiae.

**di-re** (di/rē), *adj.* *dir-er*, *dir-est*. 1. causing or involving great fear or suffering; dreadful; terrible; a *dire calamity*. 2. indicating misfortune or disaster; a *dire prediction*. 3. urgent; desperate; in *dire need of food*. [*< L* *dir*(us) fearful, unlucky] —**dire/ly**, *adv.* —**dire/ness**, *n.*

**di-rect** (di/rekt', di/rikt'), *v.t.* 1. to guide by advice, helpful information, instruction, etc. 2. to regulate the course of; control. 3. to administer; manage; supervise: *He directs the affairs of the company*. 4. to give authoritative instructions to; command; order or ordain (something): *I directed him to leave the room*. 5. to serve as director for (a musical work, play, motion picture, etc.). 6. to tell or show (a person) the way to a place; guide. 7. to aim or send toward a place or object: *to direct radio waves around the globe*. 8. to cause to move, act, or work toward a given end or result (often fol. by *to* or *toward*): *He directed his energies toward the accomplishment of the work*. 9. to address (words, a remark, etc.) to a person or persons. 10. to mark (a letter, package, etc.) with the name and address of the intended recipient.

—*v.i.* 11. to act as a guide. 12. to give commands or orders.

13. to serve as the director of a play, orchestra, etc.

—*adj.* 14. proceeding in a straight line or by the shortest course: *a direct route*. 15. proceeding in an unbroken line of descent: *a direct descendant*. 16. *Math.* (of a proportion) containing terms of which an increase (or decrease) in one results in an increase (or decrease) in another: a term is said to be in direct proportion to another term if one increases (or decreases) as the other increases (or decreases).

17. personal or immediate: *direct contact with the voters*; *direct exposure to a disease*. 18. straightforward; frank; candid. 19. absolute; exact: *the direct opposite*. 20. consisting exactly of the words originally used: *direct quotation*.

21. *Cont.* of or by action of voters, which takes effect without any intervening agency such as representatives. 22. inevitable; consequential: *a direct result of political action*. 23. allocated for or arising from a particular known agency, process, job, etc.: *The new machine was listed by the accountant as a direct cost*. 24. *Elect.* of or pertaining to direct current. 25. *Astron.* a. moving in an orbit in the same direction as the earth in its revolution round the sun. b. appearing to move on the celestial sphere in the direction of the natural order of the signs of the zodiac, from west to east. Cf. *retrograde* (def. 4). 26. (of dye colors) working without the use of a mordant; substantive.

—*adv.* 27. in a direct manner; directly; straight: *Answer me direct*. [ME *direc(en)* < L *directus* (made straight) of *dirigere* to arrange] = di- + *di*<sup>2</sup> + *rec-* (perf. s. of *regere* to guide) + *-us* (ptp. suffix) —*di-re/ct/ness*, *n.*

—*Syn.* 1. See guide. 4. *DIRECT, ORDER, COMMAND* mean to issue instructions. *DIRECT* suggests also giving explanations or advice; the emphasis is not on the authority of the director, but on steps necessary for the accomplishing of a purpose. *ORDER* connotes a personal relationship, in which a person in a superior position imperatively instructs a subordinate (or subordinates) to do something. *COMMAND*, less personal and, often, less specific in detail, suggests greater formality and, sometimes, a more fixed authority on the part of the superior. 18. open, sincere, outspoken. —*Ant.*

14. devious, roundabout.

**direct/ ac/tion**, any action seeking to achieve a result

act, able, dāre, ärt; ebb, equal; if, ice, hot, over, order; oil, böök, ööze; out, up, örge; a = a as in alone; chief; sing; shoe, thin; that; zh as in measure; ö as in button (but<sup>2</sup>n). fire (fPr). See the full key inside the front cover.